

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Upon entry of this amendment, which amends claims 1 and 8, and cancels claims 6 and 16, claims 1-5, 7-15, and 16-47 will be pending. Claims 1 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,894,473 to Dent in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,991,308 to Fuhrmann et al. Claims 18-47 were allowed and claims 2-7 and 9-17 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

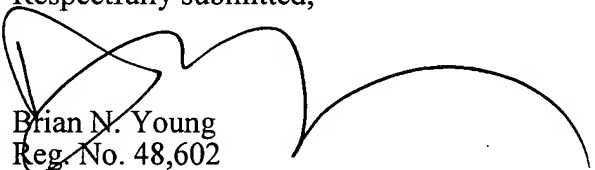
Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowable subject matter. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 8 to include the elements of allowable claims 6 and 16. Thus, applicants submit that all claims are now in a condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,


Brian N. Young
Reg. No. 48,602

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 415-576-0200
Fax: 415-576-0300
Attachments
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